55-year-old Texan Sworn In as U.S. 35th President

President Johnson

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WASHINGTON, November 22.

LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON was to-day sworn in as the 35th President of the United States, the Associated Press of America reported. He took the oath of office barely two hours after President Kennedy was assassinated.

The oath was administered by United States District Judge Sarah Hughes aboard the Presidential aeroplane at Dallas' Love Field.

Mr Johnston, 55-year-old wealthy Texas rancher, automatically became President when President Kennedy died.

He had only to be sworn in to take over constitutionally the administration to which he was elected Vice-President in 1960.

Next Year

He will serve out the remainder of the Presidential term until the end of next year.

Mr Johnson has served in both Houses of Congress for the past twenty-six years.

He was majority leader in the Senate and a leading contender for the Democratic nomination for President against the then Senator Kennedy in 1960.

In World War II, he served briefly as a naval officer in the Pacific and was for seven months a special emissary of President Roosevelt to Australia and New Zealand before returning to Congress in 1942.

Mr Johnston was with the President in the final motorcade. Other cabinet members of the Administration were scattered across the nation and beyond.

Present at the swearing-in were Mrs Kennedy and Mrs Johnson, several staff members and several Congressmen.

Mr Johnson asked as many of the White House people as possible to crowd into the executive suite of the aeroplane to witness the ceremony.

Judge Wept

Judge Hughes wept as she administered the oath.

The Presidential aeroplane took off immediately for Washington with President Johnson, Mrs Johnson and Mrs Kennedy and some White House aides aboard.

President Kennedy's body arrived by air to-night at Andrews Air Force Base, Washington. President Johnson was in the same aircraft. He has taken over the government.

President Johnson is an intense hard-driving Texan from a family of politicians.

Youngest

A career politician, he reached Washington at the age of 23 as assistant to Congressmen, to become a Congressman himself five years later.

In his early years he supported the New Deal, and became a protege of President Roosevelt.

He became a Democratic senator at 40, and at 49 became the youngest-ever leader of the Democratic majority in the Senate.

By nature a peacemaker who prefers talking to fighting, and listens before he talks, he once said: "Any mule can kick down a barn door, but it takes a good carpenter to build one."

The President is married with two daughters.

Six-feet three inches tall, he displays his Texas background by wearing ten-gallon hats with his expensive, well-cut suits.

His own initials, L.B.J., fascinate him—his wife, christened Claudia, has been known as "Lady Bird" since the age of two. His daughters are named Lynda Bird and Lucy Baines, and even the family dog is called Little Beagle Johnson.

Works Hard

He drives himself hard, and in 1955 suffered a severe heart attack, which forced him to cut back his pace for a time.

When he became Democratic leader Mr Johnson steered through the Senate in 1957 the first Civil Rights Bill to be enacted since 1875.

Mr Khrushchev, meeting him in 1959 during

his visit to America, declared "I do not know you. But I have read all your speeches and I do not like any of them."

Mrs Johnson whom the President married in 1934, once described her role as that of "a nice quiet background for my husband, to keep his life pleasant and smooth."

Brown-haired and tiny, Mrs Johnson is a clever businesswoman and has directed two radio and television stations.

To-night Mr Johnson and his wife were to have acted as host and hostess to President and Mrs Kennedy at their "L.B.J." Texas ranch.